

**TRICARE Management Activity (TMA)**  
**NE&S**  
**ITSS Order#: ID03120052**  
**Questions / Answers – Amendment 4 - 8/17/2012**

No.	Reference	Question	Response
1	NES RFQ Page 3 of 10	Please confirm that the written portion of the proposal does not include the cover page, table of contents, and acronym list (if necessary).	The quote page limit does not include the cover page, table of contents, and acronym list. See updated RFQ posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012
2	Section B- Schedule of Services/ Prices Page 2 -Section B.2a	<p>Would the government consider modifying this section to read “Periods of absence in excess of 8 workdays cumulative within a single month per FTE, whether for leave or any reason, must be reported and coordinated with the COR. Unless otherwise determined by the COR as a reasonable and legitimate absence, the monthly price will be reduced by the appropriate contract incremental FTE price for each FTE in the billing period that leave exceeds 8 workdays.”</p> <p>It is usual and often customary for personnel stationed overseas to take two weeks of vacation because of the high cost of travel and the time involved in returning to the US. Eight workdays seems overly restrictive for reasonable staff morale and welfare if it is coordinated in advance COR and approved by the workplace. There are many other legitimate examples, such as being tasked to travel at the government’s request and then being out for an illness during the month that could potentially create absences of more than eight days. Another reasonable example could be attending approved training and also taking leave during the same month. Because the current language is so strict, we simply request that the COR be given the ability to judge whether there are mitigating circumstances that create a reasonable and legitimate absence.</p>	<p>The language is revised as follows:</p> <p>“Periods of absence in excess of 8 workdays cumulative within a single month per CONUS FTE, and 13 workdays for OCONUS FTE, must be reported and coordinated with the COR. The monthly price will be reduced by the appropriate contract incremental monthly FTE price for each FTE in the billing period that leave exceeds the specified limit.”</p> <p>Note, this task order is Firm Fixed Price. The Government expects the Quoter’s pricing to reflect this payment policy. Approved training and contract related travel are not absences.</p> <p>See revised Section B, posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012</p>
3	PWS Final Page 7 of 60 and 13 of 60 -Section 2.1.7 and 4.6	The two references above contradict one another. Can the government please confirm when the Program Management Plan (Del 7) is actually due – 30 DACA or 5 DACA?	The Program Management Plan is due 30 DACA. See updated PWS posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012

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4	PWS Final Page 7 of 60 and 13 of 60 -Section 2.1.8 and 4.6	The two references above contradict one another. Can the government please confirm when the QCP (Del 8) is actually due – delivered with the vendor’s quote or NLT 30 DACA? If required to be delivered with the quote, please confirm it will be considered a separate document from the 10 page limited technical response.	The QCP is due 30 DACA. See updated PWS posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012.
5	PWS Final Page 49 of 60 -Section Attach E	Since this specific job description is pertaining to the CONUS senior network engineer, would the government consider removing the reference to “Pacific Regional Command”?	Removed references to Pacific Region. See updated PWS posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012.
6	PWS Final Page 54 of 60 -Section Attach E	Please confirm that the position requires a “SECRET” security level designation.	Confirmed, ‘Senior Network Engineer for Europe’ will require a SECRET clearance.
7	PWS Final -Section Attach E	Would the government consider the following additional language? EDUCATION: Bachelor’s degree in a technical discipline such as Computer Sciences and 3 years related experience; or successful completion of a certified technical/vocational school and 8 years related experience. “Other unique qualifications may be considered and substituted at the discretion of the COR.” An example would be someone leaving active duty that is performing the same work at the site and desires to keep working as a contractor after separation. They may be trained and have a complete understanding of the work, but may be deficient in the total years of experience.	Education requirements are unchanged. As a matter of administration, the Government may consider and substitute other qualifications in rare instances where the Contractor provides adequate consideration for waiver of contract requirements.

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8	Schedule Section B Final- Page 1 -Section B	Will the government allow the offeror to submit additional labor category options deemed to provide added flexibility and value to the successful operation of the program?	The FTE requirements in terms of Network Specialist and Network Engineer per Attachment A are mandatory. The Quoter's price quote should provide the Quoter's applicable Alliant labor categories for these positions as directed for Item X002. Labor categories necessary for management and support functions contained within the fixed price are not specified. The Quoter's solution shall include the labor categories it deems appropriate for successful operation of the program. These labor categories should be identified in the Quoter's price narrative as directed, within the basis of estimate.
9	PWS Final Page 7 -Section 2.1.10	Recent economic conditions have caused the rates for HOLA/COLA and currency exchange rates to fluctuate dramatically. Will the government consider the following addition to the section? "At the government's discretion, the COR may evaluate HOLA/COLA adjustment requests outside of the yearly cycle due to significant COLA or currency exchange fluctuations."	Reference Alliant Contract, B.11 LABOR OUTSIDE THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES (OCONUS). The DSSR will determine the maximum reimbursement for HOLA/COLA adjustments.
10	Schedule Section B Final-Page 2 -Section B.2	Did the Government intend the incremental price be on a daily Pro-rated basis for every workday in excess of 8?	No, the incremental price is a monthly price, not daily pro-rated.
11	Schedule Section B Final-Page 2 -Section B.2	Can the government confirm that the vacancy reduction of 20% of the incremental FTE monthly price is in addition to a reduction of a full incremental FTE monthly price; in other words, the penalty for vacancies beyond 30 calendar days is 120% of the applicable incremental FTE monthly price or did the Government intend to prorate per number of days in excess of 30 Calendar days are subject to a penalty?	See answer to Question 10.

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12	RFQ -Section 5.2	Contains a list of ODC amounts that are not consistent with Section B pricing. Is the NTE amount the total (\$1,475,855), or does each individual item listed represent an NTE amount? For example, Overseas Housing Allowance costs cannot exceed \$650,000/year. Please clarify which amount(s) are NTE.	The Total NTE for ODC's per year is \$1,475,855. Section 5.2 in the PWS has been revised to indicate that the ODC amounts listed are estimates rather than 'not-to-exceed' totals. See updated PWS posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012.
13	PWS Final -Attach E	There is no requirement in the instructions to submit resumes. However, Attachment E: Labor Category Responsibilities and Required Qualifications seem to imply that resumes are required. Can the contracting office please clarify the purpose of Attachment E?	Resumes are not required to be included as part of the quote, however the winning contractor may be required to provide resumes to host countries based on specific country requirements.  Attachment E provides a description for the various roles and includes qualifications necessary for specific regions/countries.
14	PWS Final -Section 2.1.12 and Attach E	In Section 2.1.12 the Government indicates designation of Key Personnel and Attachment E provides qualifications related to the labor categories; however, no qualifications have been identified for the Program Management portion of this requirement (i.e. Program/Task Manager, Program Controller, and Admin.). Are there clearances or other requirements (i.e. qualifications and experience) for the Program Management personnel?	See answer to Question 8. There are no qualifications or experience requirements for management and support functions. Clearance requirements will be based on the level of access required based on the Quoter's proposed solution. For example, if the program manager will have the same system access of the Network Engineer, they will require the same clearance and investigation requirements.
15	General Question	Given that the Government has provided a Not To Exceed amount for ODCs, is it expected that the Contractor include these numbers in their pricing?	Yes. In accordance with the price template and narrative instructions, the Quoter shall include the full NTE amount for each year and shall identify any proposed indirect burden to be applied to ODCs.

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16	General Question	Can the Government provide examples of travel history for 1 year of staffing on this contract?	Travel history is not an accurate predictor of future requirement. Travel is limited based on ODC budget and must be authorized by the COR.
17	PWS -Sec. 2.1.1.2 MPR	They mention expenditures and it is not clear what that means. Please clarify, since a few bullets later you list the requirement for current costs (i.e. FFP payment, ODC/Cost reimbursement and any T&M/costs).	This reference is redundant and has been removed. See updated PWS posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012
18	PWS -Sec. 2.1.6.1	Incoming Transition – states that the contractor will collaborate with the Govt in developing and delivering an Incoming Transition Plan, but the PWS requires that it be delivered 1 day after contract award. How does that leave any time for collaboration?	Contractor will have plan ready at award; plan will evolve during the 30 day transition, if necessary, based on Government / Contractor collaboration. See revised PWS language posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012
19	PWS -Sec. 2.1.7	PMP is due 30 DACA, but PWS 4.6 Deliverables says 5 days? Please clarify.	See answer to question 3
20	PWS -Sec. 2.1.8	Draft QCP is due with proposal, but PWS 4.6 Deliverables says 30 days. Please clarify.	See answer to question 4
21	PWS -Sec. 2.1.10	Assuming all 16 positions in Pacific/Asia & Europe are already approved by SOFA for the particular country, when a new award/contractor takes over, do they have to go through this process again?	The SOFA process is controlled and varies by host country. The Quoter must be cognizant of and comply with each country's requirements.
22	PWS -Sec. 2.1.13	Training – states that if Govt deploys or implements new systems and authorizes training, does that get mapped to the payment item X004 that has a NTE already established?	Authorization and the determination of the source of payment for training will be made by the Government based on circumstances. Frequently training for new technology will be organized and conducted by the Government and will be offered to applicable contractor staff.
23	PWS -Sec. 2.1.15.2	Korea – what is the amount of lead time it takes to get a person approved to work in Korea. According to the link, it will be at least 45 days just to go through some of the SOFA approval process and that is only 1 step. This entire process could easily take 60-90 days, so how is this factored into the “penalty” for not having positions filled?	The Quoter is required to be cognizant of the required SOFA processes and associated lead times. The vacancy reduction does not apply to circumstances not within the control of the contractor.

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24	PWS -Sec. 2.1.15.3	Europe – the link that is included sent an error message that it couldn't find page, so we could not find out any specifics as to hiring/placing personnel in Europe	Google NATO SOFA for access to this information PWS language revised to reflect this approach See revised PWS language posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012
25	PWS -Sec. 2.1.15.3.1	Germany – the link required the user to have a AKO account and said website was not authorized. <b>I recall that especially in Germany that they had very strict laws about hiring German Nationals before they would allow a contractor to be hired/brought in to do a job that potentially the German could do.</b>	Access this power point presentation: <a href="http://www.eur.army.mil/g1/content/CPD/.../SA_Overview-Germany.pptx">www.eur.army.mil/g1/content/CPD/.../SA_Overview-Germany.pptx</a> See revised PWS language posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012
26	PWS -Sec. 2.2.1	How is local travel authorized for Network Support required between the MTF and its associated clinics and other remote elements?	The COR will authorize based on specific situations.
27	PWS -Sec. 2.2.4	What is the current Asset Management system that is being used? Can an alternative system be proposed?	Remedy version as used throughout MCiS. No alternative systems will be considered.
28	PWS -Sec. 6.3.1	Internet Protocol (IPv6) states that “contractor shall provide COTS solutions that are IPv6 capable”. This is a service/labor order contract, not product, correct? Assume we can evaluate & determine if system meets IPv6 standards, but we don't actually provide COTS system/solution.	Correct, the reference is if the task did require the contractor to purchase COTS solutions.
29	PWS -General Question	PWS makes reference to Sr. Network Engineer and Sr. Engineer. These are the same positions, correct?	Yes
30	PWS -General Question	PWS states that the Sr. Network Engineer in Europe also requires an ADP sensitivity level classification, in addition to the Secret clearance. What is that ADP level? Why don't the other two (2) Sr. Network Engineers (CONUS & Pacific/Asia) require ADP sensitivity?	All Senior Network Engineers require an ADP Level I sensitivity. See updated PWS posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012
31	PWS -General Question	PWS states that the Network Specialists require an ADP sensitivity level classification. What is that ADP level?	All Network Specialists require an ADP Level II sensitivity See updated PWS posted as part of Amendment 4 on 8/17/2012

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32	PWS -General Question	PWS states that the LAN (Network) Specialist in Landstuhl, Germany and the System and Network Specialist in Sembach, Germany require an ADP sensitivity level classification. What is that ADP level? Since these positions require different skills and education from the other Network Specialists, does this mean that the systems/network in Germany are different than others in Italy, Spain and CONUS?	See answers to questions 30 and 31 for ADP level requirements. The position descriptions for Germany are slightly different to accommodate the DOCPER and SOFA requirements for Germany; Sembach specialist does have a slightly different role in support of TMA.
33	PWS -General Question	When does the current contract end?	30 September 2012
34	General Question	What is the anticipated start date of this contract and how much transition time is the Govt estimating, since it takes a lot of time to get OCONUS people approved, badged and in place?	1 October 2012  This date is subject to change.
35	General Question	With this task order classified as Tricare Management Activity Category 3 Type contract can an Alliant Prime partner with other companies who are performing as a Prime on the TRICARE Evaluation, Analysis, and Management Support (TEAMS)?	With regard to possible OCI issue, the contractor must review the RFQ ATTACHMENT 1 to determine restrictions and any necessary steps required.  As for subcontracting / partnering rules for Alliant contract holders, contractors should check with the Alliant contract business office.
36	General Question	Would a potential or perceived OCI situation exist if an Alliant Prime partners on the Network Engineers & Specialist (NE&S) task order with a "TEAMS Prime" who did not have any active contracts or support work within the Military Health System Cyberinfrastructure Services (MCiS)?	See answer to question 35  OCI determination includes both current and past contract work.